Implementation of Sarvapriya Scheme

223. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has written to the Chief Ministers to help implement the Sarvapriya Scheme launched by the National Consumer's Co-operative Federation of India for distribution of commodities at fair prices;

(b) if so, the main contents of the letter;

(c) whether he also proposes to convene a meeting of the Chief Ministers of sort out the issues;

(d) if so, by when;

(e) what are the other suggestions that have been discussed and agreed upon; and

(f) what is the latest position in respect of its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The main contents of the letter are given in the enclosed Statement. (*See* below).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

(f) The NCCF has informed that the Scheme has not been able to register good response from the States/Union Territories. At present, only a few items are being procured under the Scheme by the States of Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh.

Statement

The main contents of the letter written by the Hon'ble Union Minister, CAFPD to all the Chief Ministers of States and Lieutenant Governors of the Union Territories

(i) This Scheme is being operated on no profit no loss basis and involves no subsidy on the part of the Central Government;

(ii) The Scheme had originally envisaged distribution of eleven commodities namely Arhar Dal, Gram Dal, Masoor Dal, Urad Whole, Salt, Tea, Toilet Soap, Detergent Cake, Exercise Notebooks, Edible Oil and Toothpaste through the existing PDS retail outlets and the retail outlets of the State Cons. Coop. Federations, State Civil Supplies Corporations and the Consumer Cooperative Societies functioning in the States;

(iii) The NCCF has however agreed to include four items of common need for adding to the above list of eleven items provided the State Governments/State Agencies agree to place orders for adequate volume for the identified items;

(iv) The NCCF has agreed to supply the goods in convenient consumer packs at places identified by the State Governments/ State Agencies as per agreed terms;

(v) It is felt that the Scheme will have a salubrious effect in containing the retail prices of these essential commodities and other commodities in the market and will also help in improving the viability of the existing fair price shops under the Public Distribution System.

Export of foodgrains

†224 SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foodgrains were exported from the country during 2001-02 and upto the month of December, 2002-03;

(b) if so, the quantity of wheat and rice exported during the above periods;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Food Corporation of India had to suffer losses on these export; and

(d) if so, the amount of losses suffered during the above periods?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.